

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1908.—Copyright, 1908, by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association.

FARMING HIS POVERTY CURE

AN AMERICAN LEADS ENGLISHMEN BACK TO THE LAND.

Joseph Feis's Ideas Adopted Tentatively by the Authorities—Colonies Where the Unemployed Learn to Be Farmers—Vacant Lot Farming in London.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—An American business man has pointed out to Englishmen one solution of the problem of dealing with the unemployed in Great Britain. This is Joseph Feis of Philadelphia, whom business has compelled to spend part of the last seven years in England. He is a disciple of Henry George.

When he came to England he was struck with the poverty and wretchedness of a large part of the population, and he has sought to relieve it by leading the people back to the land. His efforts have been successful to the extent that he has induced the conservative English public authorities tentatively to adopt some of his plans.

One of his most notable achievements is the establishment of the Hollesley Bay Labor Colony on the Suffolk coast within easy train journey of London. This colony is now in the hands of the Central Unemployed Body for London, a committee working under the Local Government Board, and it is being used to convert London's failures into useful citizens. About 300 men are constantly in residence there, being evolved largely from the waste products of the London slums into gardeners, farm laborers and colonists.

The total area of land is about 1,300 acres, and there is a range of fine buildings, formerly used as an agricultural college. Much of the land was rough, but it is steadily being broken up and brought under cultivation. Mr. Feis bought the estate in 1904 and offered it rent free to the Central Unemployed Body for three years, with the option of purchase at the end of that time at the price he paid for it. The estate cost him in all about \$200,000, and it was taken over by the Unemployed Body before the time had elapsed.

Only men with families are sent to Hollesley Bay. They are maintained while in residence there, and their families in London receive a regular weekly allowance. They are sent at first for eight weeks, and if they show aptitude for agricultural work they are kept for a further term. Many of the men have obtained situations as farm laborers and gardeners, others have been assisted to emigrate and are doing well, and a few have managed to secure small agricultural holdings on their own account at home.

The idea of building up a race of small independent agriculturists is really the underlying scheme, but the diffi-

culty of obtaining small holdings is very great and the new small holdings act which is now in operation in England is doing very little to improve the situation in this respect.

Before the Hollesley Bay experiment Mr. Feis had made another on a smaller scale which has proved equally successful. He bought a farm at Laindon, Essex, for \$10,000 and offered it to the Poplar Board of Guardians on terms similar to those offered to the Central Unemployed Body. Poplar is one of the poorest districts in London and the offer was accepted promptly. Much the same work is being carried on at Laindon as at Hollesley Bay, but on another scale.

Another of Mr. Feis's experiments and the one in which he is perhaps most interested in his small holders' village at Mayland, Essex, where he bought a farm of 630 acres and cut part of it up into little holdings on each of which he built a pretty and comfortable cottage and out-buildings. There are now twenty-two five acre holdings on the farm, and others will be carved out as fast as the present tenants prove successful.

The tenants pay rent and are able to make a fair living. Most of them are men of family who are helped in the cultivation by their wives and children.

Perhaps the most interesting of Mr. Feis's experiments is that to which he is devoting himself this year. This is the cultivation of the vacant land in London itself, and although the experiment is only a year old, it is achieving wonders in a small way. There are at least 250 such plots already under cultivation, and surprising crops have been reaped from the little gardens which a year ago were a waste of bricks and mortar.

It is estimated that there is in London at least 10,000 acres of unused land capable of helping to support at least 80,000 men and their families. Most of the land is of the familiar vacant lot type. It is either land which has been built on and on which the buildings have been demolished or it is land that has been over-taken and surrounded by the city and is waiting for the builders.

The owners were in some cases disposed to look on the proposal that they should lend it to the poor with suspicion, but that attitude has now been largely overcome. The work is handled by the Vacant Land Cultivation Society organized by Mr. Feis.

This society borrows the land from the owners and lends it to suitable applicants. If the applicants possess no

knowledge of gardening they are instructed by the society's superintendent, R. L. Castle, who was formerly gardener to the Duke of Bedford. The men prove apt pupils and very few have failed to succeed.

One of the plots taken over in this way is typical of the rest. It lies in Fulham, near Putney Bridge, and a year ago it was covered with broken bricks, mortar and other debris. It had been in this condition for more than twenty years. To-day the only reminder of the waste is that a year ago is a neat pile of bricks and rubbish. Some men have been getting produce at the rate of \$250 an acre off these vacant lots.

Mr. Feis's idea has been taken up by a number of corporations which own large tracts of vacant land. The Gas Light and Coke Company, which supplies the greater part of London's gas, has turned over to the society twenty-five acres of land in Canning Town, in the east of London, which has been transformed from a waste to a stretch of smiling gardens. A number of railway companies have adopted the plan of allowing their employees to cultivate the waste land at the sides of their tracks, and it is now a familiar thing on the railways running out of London to see row after row of cabbages, beans, peas and other vegetables growing on the narrow strips alongside the line.

HARE FOR JURY'S DINNER.

Hunted in Morning, Served at Evening, According to Old English Custom.

From the London Standard.

The quaint custom of hunting the hare in the morning, to be served up for the jury's dinner at the annual Court Baron, has just been revived at Chard.

The custom has been discarded for the last forty years, but in the old time it excited a great deal of interest. A local pack of hounds used to hunt the Manor hares in the morning, and the first hare killed was sent back to the chief lord for the dinner of the jury appointed at the Court Baron.

It is said that another feature of the dinner was an enormous bowl of punch, the contents of which would cost as much as £2. The young Earl Poulett, who is the lord of the manor of Chard, brought over the hounding pack of hounds this week and the Mayor presented his lordship with a gold mounted hunting crop as a souvenir of the occasion. Later in the day the Court Baron dinner was held and the hunted hare was served up with all the honors.

Judge Beresford held the monthly sitting of the County Court in the morning and in honor of the old custom decided to postpone judgment summonses till the next court in order that there might be no commitment of debtors to prison on that auspicious occasion.

HUNTING TOGS.

They May Be of Mackinaw, or Loden Cloth, or of Dogskin.

Your hunter and camper is not careless in clothing. He has his fashions, sometimes arbitrary; but the chief aim is comfort, warmth and protection from inclement weather.

Whether he orders his suit of Mackinaw, which the rivermen and lumberjacks of the Northwest use, or of Loden cloth, which the Tyrolean peasants and mountain climbers of Switzerland use, it must possess waterproof qualities and warmth and pliability, says *Town and Country*. Color is also to be considered on account of harmonizing with the foliage.

So one prefers Swedish dogskin with its reddish brown appearance and soft chamolike feeling. Another the close woven, light and tough cloth known as gabardine, and its variation in colors, or English molasin, which makes an excellent cloth for concealing wild animals in the bush. The cost may range for a complete suit from \$30 to \$100.

Then there are Pontiac shirts, jackets, mittens, gloves and smocks, rubber coats and shirts, oilskins, leggings, rubber boots, ponchos, hunting shoes, head nets to keep away the insects, moccasins for still hunting, elkskin slippers for hunting in dry regions and wading stockings and pants.

ANCHORS FOR BATTLESHIPS.

These Recently Made Heavy Enough to Hold Largest Vessels.

From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

"If some of the sea worthies could come to earth and get a look at the anchors which were recently turned out in the Charlestown navy yard they would not believe their eyesight," said H. M. Knight of Boston. "Battlehips nowadays carry four anchors."

These have been cast heretofore, but they were liable to break at the wrong time. "They were so big, however, that it seemed there was no other way to make them. Finally it was decided to try and forge an anchor of the size needed at the Charlestown navy yard. Accordingly five men were set at work on an anchor which was to weigh 17,000 pounds. The men worked on the anchor a month and then turned out one that stood all the tests and was accepted. Now they are making those anchors in the yard in sets of four for shipment wherever they are needed."

"These anchors will hold the largest battleships afloat unless they are caught in a hurricane. They are immense affairs. They are fifteen feet long from crown to shackle and about nine and a half feet across from point to point. The palms at the arm ends, which get the grip on the bottom, are thirty-two inches wide. Several sets have been shipped to the Pacific Coast to go on battleships at the stations on that coast."

BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS.

ABRAHAM AND STRAUS

Store Open Until 7 P. M. from Now to Xmas.

To Staten Islanders and Dwellers in New Jersey—The Bowling Green Subway Station is but 5 minutes to the A. & S. Subway Station, and the Brooklyn Bridge station 9 minutes. This is the STORE ACCOMMODATING the only store with direct entrance from the Subway both from up and down town stations.

Matchless 'Xmas Values.

SUBWAY AND TAXICAB ALL BROOKLYN SUBWAY trains are express and all stop at A. & S. station—the only station with direct elevator service to all trains.

This store is also the official downtown station for the Red Taxicab—Starter at Fulton street entrance. Telephone call, 2600—Prospect.

GIVEN AWAY To all those who carry home parcels will be given a clever reproduction in color of an A. & S. horse and wagon, on heavy cardboard, easily cut out—a very clever, original souvenir that will immensely please children.

Sensational Sale of Diamond Jewelry.

Magnificent Gems Artistically Mounted—Third Reduced.

BROOCHES AND RINGS principally involved in the Sale—diamonds of highest grade and brilliancy—other jewels in keeping with quality—Oriental pearls, sapphires and rubies. Settings mainly platinum and 18k gold—all hand wrought, in exquisite taste and beauty. Could not be reproduced wholesale at these prices.

Rings.	Bracelets.	Brooches.
<p>\$425.00 Rings at \$285.00. Three stone hoop style, with two large diamonds and one Oriental ruby.</p> <p>\$250.00 Rings at \$145.00. Large cluster, with fine pearl and two circles of diamonds. Platinum and 18k gold.</p> <p>\$375.00 Rings at \$245.00. Three stone hoop style, with three large diamonds, platinum top.</p> <p>\$325.00 Rings at \$210.00. Marquise design, with two navette shape diamonds and 20 regular cut diamonds surrounding them; platinum and 18k gold.</p>	<p>\$130.00 Bracelets at \$80.00. Oval wire band, jointed with 14 diamonds and 7 baroque pearls.</p> <p>\$350.00 Bracelets at \$210.00. Round wire band, bangle style, with 48 diamonds in platinum.</p> <p>La Valliere Chains.</p> <p>\$175.00 Chains at \$120.00. Dainty scroll design of platinum, with 19 diamonds.</p> <p>\$140.00 Chains at \$98.00. A wire effect of French design, entirely of platinum, with seven diamonds and one ruby.</p>	<p>\$175.00 Brooch at \$110.00. Harvest moon of platinum, with 25 diamonds.</p> <p>\$275.00 Brooch at \$165.00. Harvest moon of platinum, with 31 diamonds.</p> <p>\$250.00 Brooch at \$155.00. Harvest moon of 18k gold, with 25 diamonds.</p> <p>\$305.00 Brooch at \$225.00. Harvest moon of 18k gold, with 17 diamonds.</p> <p>\$125.00 Brooch at \$85.00. An open square design from abroad, with 20 diamonds, 8 square cut emeralds and 10 square cut rubies.</p> <p>\$325.00 Brooch at \$210.00. An open heart design, large size, with fleur-de-lis in centre, 61 diamonds, set in platinum.</p>

Fur Neck Pieces and Muffs—Unmatched Values.

<p>\$6.50 Sable Opossum Muffs at \$3.95. Large square Muff, heavy felt.</p> <p>\$7.50 Sable Opossum Scarfs at \$4.95. Satin lined, trimmed with six tails, 65 inches long.</p> <p>\$9.00 Isabella and Sable Blended Opossum Muffs at \$5.50. Very large full square Muffs, best quality.</p> <p>\$10.00 Isabella and Sable Blended Opossum Shawls at \$6.50. Lined throughout with brown Skinner's satin, trimmed with four tails.</p> <p>\$9.00 Sable Blended Squirrel Cravats at \$5.95. Made in Russia and Edina May style, best quality skins.</p> <p>\$9.00 Black Persian Lamb Head Sets at \$6.50. Consisting of a large square Muff and 60-inch Throw Scarf.</p> <p>\$14.00 Black Persian Lamb Paw Sets at \$9.75.</p> <p>\$18.00 Black Persian Lamb Paw Sets at \$10.75. Made with the new model open Muff and fancy tab end Scarfs.</p> <p>\$20.00 Black Russian Lynx Scarfs at \$14.75.</p> <p>\$25.00 Black Russian Lynx Rug Muffs at \$17.50. Made of fine glossy black skins, shirred satin lined, trimmed with head and paws.</p>	<p>\$25.00 Black Fox Scarfs at \$19.75. Shirred silk lined and trimmed on ends with silk ruffles.</p> <p>\$30.00 Black Fox Rug Muffs at \$24.75. Shirred lining with peau de eigne founce trimming.</p> <p>\$24.75 Ermine Animal Scarfs at \$19.00.</p> <p>\$35.00 Natural Mink Scarfs at \$24.75. Trimmed with two tabs and heads and six tails.</p> <p>\$25.00 natural Mink Pillow Muff at \$19.75.</p> <p>\$40.00 natural Mink Animal Muff at \$29.75.</p> <p>\$75.00 Natural Mink Night-Skin Animal Scarf at \$59.75. Trimmed with nine tails, heads and paws.</p> <p>\$75.00 Blended Hudson Bay Sable Scarfs at \$54.75.</p> <p>\$100.00 Blended Hudson Bay Sable Muffs at \$79.75.</p> <p>\$125.00 natural Hudson Bay Sable Animal Scarfs at \$95.00.</p> <p>\$200.00 natural Hudson Bay Sable Rug Muff at \$165.00.</p> <p>\$425.00 Blended Hudson Bay Sable Sets, \$325.00. Made of ten fine selected skins, four-skin Rug Muff and six-skin Animal Peltrine, elaborately trimmed with tails, paws and heads.</p>
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Second floor, front, Central Building.

Watch for Half Price Signs on Toys.

Splendidly Complete Stock Even Now.

FOUR DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS, with the greatest record for selling in the history of the Toy Store, we present a stock far more complete in assortment and fascinating kinds of Toys than any other Brooklyn store had to begin with. BUT DO NOT WAIT TILL THE LAST DAY, for every moment some bargain is snapped up here that cannot be duplicated. Watch for half-price signs all through Toyland.

Dolls.	Splendid assortment, dressed and without dresses.	Games.
<p>\$1.00 Rag Dolls at 79c. Best makes in variety of styles.</p> <p>\$5.00 to \$10.00 Dolls at \$3.98 to \$6.98. Finest grade of French and American beauties—a few of the real museum.</p> <p>\$10.00 and \$12.00 kinds, \$4.98 and upward.</p> <p>HIGH GRADE DOLLS used in our window display now greatly reduced—even half in some cases—\$25.00, \$35.00 and \$50.00. Dolls, queens of them all, at \$12.40, \$15.00, \$17.00 and \$19.98. All new and fresh as daisies.</p> <p>\$15.00 to \$25.00 Brass Beds at \$9.98, \$12.98 and \$15.00. Beautifully trimmed for use in our windows.</p> <p>Great assortment for children, at 95c.</p> <p>\$5.00 HAND CARS, \$2.98. Entire stock of factory—first class machine, steel frame and rubber tires.</p> <p>Sleds. Flexible Flyers—the favorites, No. 1, \$1.98; No. 2, \$2.49; No. 3, \$3.60; No. 4, \$5.08. Humpty Dumpty Circus Sets, 49c., 98c. and up for Sets; extra pieces. 5c. to 60c.</p>	<p>\$7.00 Automobile (spot power).</p> <p>\$1.00 and \$1.25 Teddy Bears at 50c. Imported Stien—the BEST.</p> <p>Boys' trainings.</p> <p>Lead Soldiers, \$5.00 to \$10.00. Exhibition sets, \$2.98 and \$4.98.</p> <p>ENGLISH DOLL CARRIAGES. All the best makes. Prices way below regular at \$3.49, \$4.98, \$5.98 up to \$9.00. Folding Steel Doll Go-Carts, cutest thing ever. 98c., \$1.98, \$2.98.</p>	<p>All the newest and most popular—few examples:</p> <p>Teddy Bear Games.....\$2.98</p> <p>Vanderbilt Cup Race.....\$2.98</p> <p>Making Scroll Saw Puzzles. Select any picture and the Puzzles are made while you wait and watch—49c. up. Saw for cutting puzzles 29c. to \$5.00. Scroll Puzzle, a special at \$1.98.</p>

Fourth floor, West Building.

Women's \$22 to \$40 Coats at \$15.

Stirring Sale of 200 Coats.

ENTIRE WINTER SURPLUS of another well known maker. About 125 Coats that sold at \$22.00 to \$32.00, about 40 that sold at \$32.00 to \$35.00, and the remainder of the 200 sold at between \$35.00 and \$40.00. Materials are broadcloths, velours, caracul cloths and silks. All, regardless of original prices, at \$15.00 each—early comers getting the best bargains, but every Coat a marvel of value. None sent C. O. D.

\$15.00 to \$20.00 Raincoats for Women, \$8.95.

Just 150 in silks and moires, rubberized—an admirable gift. None C. O. D.

Continuation also of the great fore-Christmas clearance sale in our fine Coats, Suits, Wraps, Dresses, etc. Unmatchable prices.

Second floor, Central Building.

Biggest Bargains—Briefly Told

<p>Fancy Goods—Half Priced. \$2.00 to \$5.00 Ash Trays at \$1.00 to \$2.00, and other like values.</p> <p>\$1.25 Belts at 47c.</p> <p>\$1.00 to \$2.00 German Flannel Jackets at 69c. No mail, telephone or hurry box orders.</p>	<p>\$3.00 Chafing Dishes at \$4.97.</p> <p>\$5.00 Chafing Dishes at \$5.45.</p> <p>\$5.00 Art Chafers at \$7.50.</p> <p>Men's \$25.00 All Wool Overcoats at \$15.00.</p> <p>\$1.25 and \$1.50 Umbrellas, 95c. and</p>	<p>Like Values up to \$14.00 and \$10.00 at \$5.74.</p> <p>Men's \$3.00 Winter Weight Shoes at \$2.10.</p> <p>50c. to \$5.00 Princess Lace Handkerchiefs at 25c. to \$3.50.</p> <p>\$6.00 Plated Silver Toilet Sets, \$4.34.</p>
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Get a Christmas Certificate

If you do not know exactly what to buy for any one, we have Christmas Certificates which may be exchanged by the bearer for anything desired in this store up to the face value of \$2.50, \$5.00 and \$10.00. If larger amount is desired, buy two or more Certificates.

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KRANICH & BACH Upright	300	140
WEBER Upright	400	165
STERLING Upright	350	165
WESER Upright	350	175
PAYNES Upright	NEW	175
ARION Upright	NEW	175
WEBSTER Upright	325	180
WESTON Upright	NEW	190
WILBUR Upright	275	215
LECKERLING Upright	350	225
PEASE Upright	375	235
HARRINGTON Upright	350	250
GEO. DUTTON Square	250	20
WAGNER Square	300	25
DOECKER Square	300	45
SOHMER & CO. Square	350	60
HARDMAN Square	450	60
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STEINWAY & SON Square	500	80

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If you were completely informed about the Sterling Playerpiano and what it can do, we do not believe you would hesitate to purchase this instrument which will give so much value and permanent satisfaction.

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